

ONE
SHEET,
Or, if you will
A Winding Sheet
For the
Good Old Cause,

IN ORDER TO
A Decent Funeral, in case of a
second *DEATH.*

By W. P. Philopolites.



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A: Decent Function in case of a
locking DEATH

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A Winding Sheet, &c.

I would not have any to imagine that my design is to expose this sheet to publick view, as a Trophy of the pretended Good Old Cause its Resurrection; neither would I have it do penance therein, lest the products of its Sanguine Completion, should prove worse then *Mensæ Prostib. am.*, and consequently leave such an illurable stain, that instead of a Sheet, it should deservedly be called *Fannum mensuralem*; but my intention, rather is to have it in a readiness at the time of its Funerall Solemnities: for it is much suspected, that though our new imagined Common-wealth may have Twins struggle in its Womb, yet that it will at last only bring forth a single person (which single product, (the Relique being more dangerous then *Mala in utero*) may well cause the death of the Mother) for the settling of which there will not be wanting such Mercenary Midwives, as will put to their helping hands, for the production of any thing though never so monstrous. Now what greater Monster can be produced, then a new Protector of another Family and Interest then what we have already? But when this Tympanie of Pride and Ambition is swelled to the height, we shall have the bowels of our Good Old Cause break into a Protectorship, or some other title equivalent, and more Tyranical. O P. was as much for this Good old Cause as our new Pretenders, till he saw an opportunity of settling himself in the Saddit, and then the Keepers of the Liberty of England might lead his horse, but Death dismounting this Champion, his Son according to the Humble Pleading and Advice assumed his Fathers Room, to whom (as is obvious enough) Addresses were made from most Countries and Cor-

porations in England, looking upon him as their lawfull and supreme Govenour / the family of the Stuarts being extirpated by the continuall warre of rebellion. But still the protestant act, and Mr. M. behind much discontent, at the very time when the Kinge was in the monastick, down goes Edward without an affekt of Opposition. It is very probable, that had his little finger been heavier then his fathers loines, he had not so easly been heas'd. Once, for somes simill gudges, and one oppresor would help to maintaine another, especially whilste their interest run parallel; but he seeming to decline oppression, Oppressors decline him, and make bold to practice that in their own Names, which they cannot have licence to act under the Protection of another, in that now every Private Soldier aspires to the dignety of *Dux cunctis malorum*, and blusnes not to affront such, as maintaine them and their blushing colour'd Coates.

But it seemes the days of mourning are over, and their black buttons, will no longer put them in mind of their old Benefactor - the old King killing Canis standing in Competition with his posterity, loathes now to appear to be a Provisor, as was in the dayes of yore to be a Councillor.

And thus are we impell'd to Vessell to Vessell, and every day more and more slaves to our own Countrymen, which is as base, in me to suffer, as it is in them to impose: And yet all must be done Machivillian like under a pretence of Religion, and of Libertie and privy judges of the people, when as daliie Experience teacheth us, that nothing less is intended, every plaine Countryman being so far become a Polititioner, so that he can easly discerne the face of these fallacies in the glasse of his own woes; and Geographer like will give you a foreword description of most of the highways, ~~so W. F. M.~~, in which though he never wrought or traveld, yet he hath faith enough to assure, that they are well intended in times of yeare of a long Parliament where there hath nor heretofore wanted witt knowe, that would take more then ordinary paines in the time of other men, to seeke, so that they might fave their own joyes. ~~so W. F. M.~~ ~~and seeing they have an opportunity offered of making Hay~~ whilst,

whilst the sun shines, let us go into the shade where have nothing else to do, but to sing Solamen miseri &c. which dolefull ditty is the onely solace as I know now extant, and is like to continue till we turne our swords into ploughshares, and our spears into pruning hooks; which is not like to come to passe, whilst some of us are so prone to dissensions, that we must needs create disturbances in the Nation, on purpose to rende the sword usefull and necessary; Whereas we were in a faire way of safety, and might very well have put our selves into a posture of defence according to our old Method, without that in tollerable and needless burthen of a constant Army, which would be insupportable to any but Afric backs.

But we see Customes in Martiall affaires, as well as Law, are not so easily broken, where uses are transferred into fact into pollution, without help of the Statute of 27. H. 8. and a peice of a long Parliament Feoffes in trust, which are as Conduit pipes; I cannot say to lead the uses, because the uses lead them; But however they serve to convey the sweet honey from the laborious Bee to the idle Drones, and if themselves get a taste by the way, tis onely in Correspondence to the Proverbe, That tis an ill Cook that will not lick his own fingers.

But no more of that least I should set them on a stomack, that never had an appetite, for we have Task-Masters enough who will expect their tale of Bricks, though they allow no straw, and will exact taxes, though they distract Trading; who, so that they may make themselves great, care not how despicable, or to what extremities they expose others; But sure such have little reason to promise themselves safety, in their private Cabins, when the Ship is in danger of sinking, or to dream of a perpetuity in that, wherein others have had so small a continuance, the Wheele of Fortune being apt to turne, when it stands most steady; our late transactions raffing as much, and may send so the setting the light Spoke uppermost.

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one backslidings yede another yede a high marke
bills

Tis an undeniable Maxime in Divinity; That whatsoever is of God shall stand: And most true it is, *Si Deus nobiscum quis contra nos*: but yet he may suffer many things which he doth not allow, and then they must needs fall; the pleasant success not deciphering the goodness of a cause, though it be never so old: For I never thought good and old Correlatives, because I have often observed that the older the worse, and we all know that a thing relinquished and forsaken, being new swept and garnished, is fitter for the reception of more Devils then ever.

I most really confess that I am so much, what I profess my self in the front of this sheet (and I wish for quietness sake we were all of the same mind) that for the welfare of my native Country, I could think a Republique good, so that it did not degenerate from a Commonwealth, and a Protector better, so he parted not with that like a fool, whiche some say (his father got like a knave & a King best of all, that title being most agreeable to our Laws & Nation) so he were not a Tyrant & nullified all good Votes, with his Negative voice, or stand so much upon his Prerogative till he loseth his place: but from a Demmeracy, *Libet non Dominat*, that our Parliaments may be no longer over aw'd with swordes like a dog with a Cudgell, nor take any more such strong Podestas, as to purge out the Members instead of the Humors, which must needs render them an imperfect body, not worthy the name of the peoples Representatives, but rather the Hawking horses of some preticular persons, to catch their prey the more easily.

We use to say of two evils the least is to be chosen: I wish our new created Parliament may obserue the same method, and seeing in this juncture of affairs, they could do no less then what they have done; I hope that in their progress they will make choice of Aristocracy, rather then an Oligarchy, that an executive power (seeing it may not be in one,) may be committed to a few of the best, though not for the present of the strongest, and that such whose breeding and parts makes them only guilty of malicie quicke, may not be impeached by bones only rattling with Magnanimitie, which have nothing in them but the downright language of the Sword, whose Ignorance makes them despise that which they understand not, and

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and whose Covetousness makes them desire that which others possess, who delight in nothing less than peace, because it is no estate for Plunder, and are not what confusions they introduce, so they produce their profit and keep the Nation still (Monster like) with the Tail where the Head should stand, which fight hath cost every English man a vast deal more, than many a Show that is not worth two pence? I speak not this to extenuate the honour due to Martial Discipline, which may tend much to the glory of a Nation, nor to derogate from the worthiness of such Martians whose merits may sufficiently manifest that my speech is not intended of them, though it be in some sort directed to them, only to this end that it may the more conspicuously appear that they have drawn the Sword for their Countries good, by being willing to lay it down for their advantage; and as opportunity shall offer itself, to send those Mercenaries under their command (who will fight on any side for & d. odds) to their quondam imployments, whose desire is only to make a Trade of War, and to live upon the ruins of others, being not willing to be accounted non-prolifics under their late grand Tutor, who was so ill experienced in the Game at Ps, that by the advantage of a few Spots, ungraciously rendered the King an inconsiderable Queen, and their illegitimate Births of that corrupted Parent are grown to that maturity that they are ever ready to run the hazard of a forcible entry, and in imitation of their old Games, set poor honest men out of doors, though they have nothing but a Knave to shew fort. But we are now at Om and thirty, a Game that without disparagement may be plaid at a Countre Table, where if the Gamblers be not self-seekers, this miserable charr'd Nation may be the greater Winners.

But now to turn to our Good Old Cause, which being now come to Town, may justly take exceptions, that I have been so long averse, & not exercised towards her Ladishippe those common civillites, that are usual to all Strangers, as to sollicite their stay, though they never desire it, &c. But I make but an excuse, ne're being bred up in the Academy of Compliments, therefore not apt to flatter, neither can I speak Ironically, though I have learned the Figure, being more apt to tell Toss-Twits Dialect,

well to think what I think. But to tell you true, and which was
bad Omen, there are so many *Anabaptists*, *Tamillians*, *Socynians*,
Quakers, *Cu u malis elis*, that rejoice at this new Church, that
I thought my entertainment would not be acceptable; and another
notorious Company of *Grenadiers*, which notwithstanding
I had almost forgot, viz. our Church Anragonists, that can-
not endure the light of a holy Sister in a Steeple-house, but forth-
sooth they must have a convenient meeting place, where they
may mingle together in Friendship to beget Reformation.
These scurvy brood of Hypothesites, or (at best) blind Zealots,
together withal the spurious crew of Jesuitical impostors; bearing,
as one saith in another case, a sacred harred to whatever is
comely and decorous, do in a perpetual scorn to if disport all
their Actions to the contrary Mode, applauding themselves only
in an unlimited liberty, and of doing whatever either their
fond or foul imaginations suggest to them. As for their bewared
garb, the cloak of Religion, I find thorow with full hypocritise
which knif-men like, is never off in the basest Employments,
Conscience they carry in their pockets /ac cravat, which they
can stretch upon all sovereign occasion, even to the remission
of all Revenues, that end to the inconveniencie, either of living
or Religion. But to hang by these Idomes, let us with-
out God /or /a God/better FAVORITES, that seeing there is such
false pretences we may see some performances equivalent, and
that those in Authority may more regard the Publick than
their private Commodity: that so the good People of this
Nation may be so much satisfied with the effects of this Change,
as they are for the present discontented. That a Learned and
Godly Ministry may be communitc'd, so that Court and
Church may at once be destroyed, nor the Universities be for-
ced to follow Whitchall, which (they say) is to be purchas-
ed for ever, and I hope no true Christians will meddle
with other.

The conclude, as this GOOD OLD CHOSE putteth into
a bad new Case and Condition worse then ever, we might well
forget the fish of November, if the greater deliverance, might
justly abridge the lese of the atom being whelmed.

FINIS.